

Senate Resolution 838

By: Senator Schaefer of the 50th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 To urge and support the full funding of state and local efforts to clean up hazardous waste
2 sites and properly address waste-related activities, and control erosion and sedimentation; and
3 for other purposes.

4
5 WHEREAS, in order to protect public health and the environment and enhance the quality
6 of life for Georgians, state and local governments must properly control threats posed by
7 hazardous and solid waste sites and activities and sources of erosion and sedimentation; and

8 WHEREAS, effective and efficient cleanup of hazardous and solid waste sites and control
9 of erosion and sedimentation relies on a cooperative approach between state and local
10 governments, utilizing established tools and funds designed for these purposes; and

11 WHEREAS, success in protecting public health and our environment, as well as
12 improvements in the quality of life, are directly tied to adequate funding for cleanup of
13 hazardous waste and solid waste sites, mitigation of waste-related activities, and erosion and
14 sedimentation control; and

15 WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of these duties, state law establishes dedicated
16 funding sources through fees and fines to assist in addressing hazardous and solid waste sites,
17 waste-related activities, and erosion and sedimentation control; and

18 WHEREAS, in recent years, these funds have been substantially redirected to other uses,
19 rendering state and local efforts to clean up hazardous and solid waste sites, address
20 waste-related activities, and provide erosion and sedimentation control significantly
21 understaffed and unsatisfactorily funded; and

1 WHEREAS, the redirection of these funds collected specifically for the management of these
2 critical environmental programs negatively impacts Georgia's communities, public health,
3 and environment; and

4 WHEREAS, many local governments are expending significant sums of money in
5 investigating and remediating hazardous waste sites for which such local governments have
6 been preapproved, are eligible, and have applied for reimbursement, but have been
7 reimbursed only a fraction of the funds expended due to the redirection of these funds.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
9 steadfastly support the full utilization of all dedicated environmental revenues for state and
10 local efforts to clean up hazardous waste sites, properly address waste-related activities, and
11 control erosion and sedimentation and support the use of such funds for only the uses for
12 which the funds were set aside.